

June 6, 1998

Hi Lorena,

Thanks for your e-mail. Never sure just what's happening with your work, I figured I'd send you a "real" letter.

The stuff you wrote about the beach and the parking reminded me of a TV Nation (Michael Moore's show) I saw a year or two ago when Janene Garofolo tried to invade a Connecticut beach where they wouldn't let outsiders. After trying to get access (she brought a bunch of New Yorkers she supposedly got off the street up in a tour bus) they rented a boat, went out into the sound, jumped off the boat and swam ashore and were all promptly arrested. It was hysterical.

Things have just been terrible work-wise. Temp agencies just aren't coming through (though my favorite one *may* have a job I'm waiting to hear about). I've been sending out resumes like mad -- and I know my resume is pretty good because prospective employers in the past have told me so. But it's been pretty discouraging (as you well know). But it's all part of what America is today. I read the want-ads and most of the time I have no idea what the hell they're talking about.

Still, I do have some irons in the fire. Next week this guy from England on the Dylan list is coming to town and I'm meeting him Friday. I'm hoping he'll find a way to bring me to England (I hear he has money). I've also arranged for us to meet with the guy who does the Dylan web-site (we've both contributed). Now the guy who does the web-site (obviously) has some connections since the site is sponsored by Sony but actually it is Dylan's people (not Sony) that has final approval. So I'm kind of hoping that meeting him will be the first step in him putting a word in with who-ever to get me some kind of work. I know he *really* likes my writing.

Not much has been happening musically, though I've been doing a fair but never enough gigs. As usual I'm trying to change the business situation in regards to music. Through the net I've met some other people who are trying to help. One, (I think I wrote you) is a lawyer who goes way way back in the business. He has my stuff, but time will tell. He'll at least have a better idea where to shop me than my current (Philly) lawyers who don't have a clue.

Still it's the little signs of encouragement that keep me going. E-mails here and there from people who just discovered the web page and my songs and like them. Stuff like that. I am more and more frustrated with Tangible. I'm doing a gig in upstate PA, and the club which is fairly cooperative sent me a list of press and radio contacts. So I asked Gary to handle the radio, which he did, but not without sending me some stupid e-mail saying "I don't see what good radio is gonna do up there." (It's way, way upstate.) I wrote him back saying "every thing helps and radio is just about the *only* thing they have up there. He can be so infuriating.

Other than that, my dad's been pretty sick again. He was in the hospital for a week last month (his blood sugar got totally out of whack, along with some other problems). What scares me is I suspect he's just completely losing

interest in being around. Suddenly, he just got *real* old. His mind is still there and everything, but his body is starting to fail him and he's just not happy about it. And of course it's not easy for me to deal with. He's kind of stooped now when he walks and stuff. We (my brother and sister-in-law) took some action and have gotten some people and services to help him. When the social workers came to him in the hospital, he turned them down, so my sister-in-law had to go through all this stuff to get the ball rolling. And I had to go up there and tell him, "When they come to visit you, whatever they offer, just say yes." Stuff like that. I call him every day to see how he is. He'll tell me he's okay, then tell my sister-in-law something else. I had to go up there and say, "Dad, if you tell me you're ok when you're *not* ok," I'm going to think you're ok. So it's ok to tell me you're not ok." Very frustrating. The only thing that makes it slightly easier is so many people I know are going through the same thing right now. Turk's (my some-time drummer) dad died in May and Kerry's dad passed this last week. (Both had been real real sick for a very long time, so it was more a relief than anything.)

So, I dunno. "The only thing I know how to do is keep on keeping on."

Take care.

Love,